

BERESFORD-SCOTT  
INCIDENT.

## Not Yet Closed.

(Exclusive Service, supplied by Reuters,  
via Bombay.)

LONDON, March 10.

Mr George Lambert, Civil Lord of the Admiralty, speaking in the House of Commons in reply to a question regarding the Beresford-Scott incident, stated that the Admiralty had directed the Commander-in-Chief to convey to Admiral Scott his disapprobation of the signal which the latter used.

## THE KAISER'S LETTER.

Private, Personal, and  
Friendly.(Exclusive Service, supplied by Reuters,  
via Bombay.)

LONDON, March 10.

Lord Tweedmouth, speaking in the House of Lords, stated that the Kaiser's letter was private and personal, and was of a very friendly character.

He has shown the letter to Earl Grey, who has agreed that it should be treated privately.

He has accordingly replied to the Kaiser in a friendly spirit and quite informally.

Lord Tweedmouth said that he firmly believed that the course adopted was a good one, and was calculated to do what all so much desired, foster a good understanding between the German Empire and Great Britain.

## A CHINESE MANAGER.

The Chinese Engineering  
and Mining Co.

(Chinese Mail's Service.)

PEKING, March 10.

It is stated that in accordance with the judgment delivered in 1905 in the High Court of England, the Management of the Chinese Engineering and Mining Company, Limited, will be handed over to H. E. Chang Yih in the course of this month.

## MISSIONARIES IN CHINA.

(Chinese Mail's Service.)

PEKING, March 10.

The Peking Government has decided that in future a mixed court will be established in each province to deal with cases in which missionaries are concerned.

## GERMANY.

LONDON, March 9.

The Court of Honour at Potsdam has sentenced Count Hohenau, mentioned in the Moltke case, to removal from the list of officers and to the loss of all his decorations. The Kaiser has confirmed the sentence.

## THE CONGO TREATY.

LONDON, March 9.

The text of the amended Congo treaty has evoked strong dissatisfaction in Belgium owing to the onerousness of the obligations imposed on Belgium.

COLLIERY DISASTER IN  
ENGLAND.

LONDON, March 9.

Five hundred men were working on the rescue of entombed miners in the Hamstead colliery at Birmingham. Fire is raging in the mine. The King has wired from Birmm, saying that he is deeply concerned, and asks for full reports of the disaster.

THE PORT ARTHUR COURT  
MARTIAL.

LONDON, March 9.

The sentence on General Stossel has been commuted to 10 years imprisonment in a fortress.

CURE YOUR COLD BEFORE IT  
ENDANGERS YOUR HEALTH.

THE quicker a cold is gotten rid of the better. Procure a bottle of Chamberlain's Cough Remedy and no time will be lost, whether the cold is slight or severe. For sale by all chemists and druggists.

## THE SEIZED STEAMER.

## AN ULTIMATUM FROM JAPAN.

Apology and Indemnity  
Demanded.

(Chinese Mail's Service.)

PEKING, March 11.

As a final measure the Japanese Minister has lodged four demands with the Chinese Government with a statement that in the event of China not complying with such demands, or promising to do so within three days, extreme measures will be taken by the Japanese Government.

The demands are:

- 1.—The release of the Tatsu Maru with all cargo on board.
- 2.—An apology from the Canton Viceroy for lowering the Japanese flag.
- 3.—Punishment of the officials concerned in the seizure.
- 4.—Payment of indemnity for delaying the vessel.

[REUTERS'S SERVICE.]

## In Support of Japan.

LONDON, March 9.

The "Daily Telegraph" in a leading article strongly supports Japan in the Tatsu Maru question, and says that the Japanese are no longer receiving fair play. The article strongly condemns what it describes as cringing Japan's on-going, especially among English speaking peoples who encourage Mandarin arrogance. It declares that Japan is perfectly entitled to secure advantages in trade, proportionate to her sacrifices; all nations have done the same.

## Public Opinion.

(From Our Correspondent.)

CANTON, March 10.

The Canton press unanimously denounce Sir Robert Hart's advice to the Chinese Government in connection with the Tatsu Maru II, and demand a fair trial.

The public declare that whatever the consequences might be the vessel must not be released without a fair enquiry being made into the case. The Canton Viceroy was highly praised for his firm action. It was pointed out that by surrendering the vessel without a trial, a serious precedent would be created which would tend to the destruction of the Empire. If it was decided by the arbitrators that China was in the wrong then she had to bear the consequences, while on the other hand by surrendering under the threat of the Japanese Government, there was no necessity for the existence of any treaty and foreign countries might smuggle anything into China freely, and China could not object. The matter is looked upon very seriously by the Chinese public.

## Secrecy to be Maintained.

CANTON, March 10.

Viceroy Chang issued instructions to-day ordering the strictest observance of secrecy in all matters in connection with the Tatsu Maru II, now that the case is pending in Peking.

## Changed Attitude at Peking.

CANTON, March 10.

A wire from the Peking Government has reached here in reply to the Viceroy's refusal to surrender the vessel. It states that since sufficient proof and evidence are available to guarantee a successful issue with the Japanese, the Viceroy is determined to stand firm to the end.

The telegram continues that in an interview with foreign ministers the majority of them gave the opinion that Japan's demand under the present circumstances was unreasonable, and remarked that the action on the part of the Canton Viceroy was justified.

## TEMPLES OF SPORT.

Under the above caption "The Motor Car and Athletic Journal" of Singapore, refers to the Hongkong V.R.C. house in the following terms: Hongkong is priding itself on the possession of one of the prettiest and best equipped sporting clubs in this part of the world. It is an enterprise of the Victoria Recreation Club in triumphing over the ruin wrought by the recent great typhoon that has given rise to a handsome club pavilion in place of an unsightly matchbox. But the fact of its erection on the reclamation adjoining the Admiralty dockyard does not appear to associate it with a pavilion that can be classed as ideal. Its interior may include a gymnasium, bar, dressing-room, house-room, office, lavatories, and store-rooms, besides comfortable and spacious verandahs; but when one recalls the out-cry that was raised some five years ago against the nuisance that would be occasioned by the clouds of dense smoke and the din of noisy machinery from the neighbouring dockyard, one would wish to associate the sportsman's hours of leisure at Hongkong with the recreation clubs of Singapore and Malaya, whose pavilions, for the most part, are in the open, fanned by the cooling breezes of "Sunstraps," and away from the fumes and bustle of modern warfare.

## PRIZE DISTRIBUTION.

## Victoria British School.

The distribution of prizes took place at the Victoria British School to-day, in the presence of a large number of parents and others interested. Mr E. D. C. Wolfe presided, and H. E. the Governor, who presented the prizes, accompanied by Mr Brackenbury, were also present.

In his report the headmaster (Mr W. H. Williams) said that the school was closed during the whole of February, owing to alterations to the building, and during August and September, owing to the heat. The average monthly attendance ranged from 53 in January to 38 in July. Seventy-one pupils were admitted during the year. In all 2,910 were expended and \$11,075.50 received, the net cost of the school being \$497.50, an average of \$3.31 per head as against \$2.30.38 for Queen's College. Eleven boys remained in the 6th and 6th forms, as against 6 last year, a fact which was favourably commented on, as the Upper School provides for a commercial education, as well as engineering, sciences to engineering, three in England and two in the Naval Yard. The headmaster deprecated the fact that two boys, just able to write and cipher and with a superficial knowledge of algebra, had left the school to obtain positions in the Commercial Service at \$50 per month. One had since returned to school and the other had changed his vocation, thus emphasizing the necessity of allowing boys to remain longer at school. The general health of the school was good, but there were cases of infectious diseases during the past three years, excepting malaria in 1900. The removal of the swamps in the vicinity and the improvement in drainage by the P. W. D. had done much to lessen the chance of another outbreak. An additional examination was held during the year, the parents of each child being furnished with a report as to progress at Easter, Midsummer and Christmas. Reading, Writing and Arithmetic were fair in classes 1 and 2, good in class 2 and very good in class 3, and Geography had improved all round. A graded system of Composition was initiated during the year, commencing with class 2 and as a result class 4 composed very creditably and justified the experiment. In Drawing the girls were the better, the boys being less successful. An additional work done in classes 3 and 4 being Geography, and interesting. In the Infant's class, classes 1 and 2 Kindergarten exercises were given but owing to want of closer personal supervision the progress made was not as great as might have been expected. An additional assistant mistress has been engaged for the present year. In the Upper School, to which boys only are admitted, the curriculum included English Grammar and Literature, Mathematics (Arithmetic, Algebra and Geometry), Geometrical Drawing and Model Drawing, and History. The Geography, which had been the subject of a suggestion to include Latin in place of English Grammar was found impracticable. Bible instruction from the old and new Testaments, which is optional and undenominational, was taken up by the pupils. The Technical Institute for Elementary Applied Mechanics. Six boys were promoted to the Upper School in October. For the first time in the history of the school four boys were entered for the Preliminary Oxford Local Examination and all passed, one in the second. The results of the examination, which requires passes in six subjects, were:—English Literature, Composition and Mathematics, 75 per cent. passes; Arithmetic, Religious knowledge, English History, Geography, Geometrical Drawing, Euclid and Object Drawing, 100 per cent. passes. The four successful boys were:—George Stokes, George Hoskins, B. Friend, and M. McNeil. Two boys also obtained Pitman's Elementary Certificate in shorthand. The Anglo-Chinese schools, who passed first in Algebra, Geometry, Geometrical Drawing and Elementary Mathematics and second in Arithmetic, won the prize awarded by Mr D. Templeton. As the majority of the boys had passed the Government Examination in Advanced Hygiene in 1902, and B. Friend and M. McNeil were substituted for 1907, and all the senior boys will be sent for instruction and examination to St John's Ambulance Association. School games were not neglected. Cricket and football matches were played against all the Anglo-Chinese schools. In the Schools Football League the Victoria School clubbed four places higher than last year, but the school is not in the competition this year, as the formation of a minor cup competition for the Anglo-Chinese schools left Victoria School in the 4th for several years of suitable future. Hockey is also played and there seems no difficulty in teaching the boys to swim. The first annual sports were held on Empire Day, prizes being liberally contributed by parents and friends. Ten cadets (eight from Victoria School) attended camp at Stonecutters Island for three days, receiving instruction in infantry drill and semaphore signalling. A marked improvement was shown and a very fair standard of efficiency in semaphore signalling was attained. The Volunteer Staff Officer (Captain A. J. Thompson) reported very favourably on the conduct of the camp. It is to be formed in connection with the school. The headmaster paid a tribute to the conscientious teaching and good work done by the staff, and also expressed his thanks of the pupils for the practical support received during the year.

The price list is as follows:—  
INFANTS' SCHOOL.  
Class I: Dorothy Morris, Arthur Gibson, Class II: Ada Dickson, John Brett, Fred Halton.  
Class III: Rosie Mitchell, Colin McDonald, E. Wilkinson.  
Class III: J. Edgar Davey, Jessie Rodgers, George Rodgers.  
Class IV: Jessie McNeill, Jessie Stokes, E. Brett, John Rodgers.  
UPPER SCHOOL.  
—V: Top boy, Ivan Gibson; Marked progress, George Baker, George Hobbs; Composition, Randolph Scott.  
—VI: Arithmetic, George Stokes; General Knowledge, M. McNeil; Mathematics, D. Silverstone; Headmaster's prize to Dux of the school, M. McNeil.  
\* Also obtained Oxford Local Certificate.  
His Excellency said:—Before I distribute the prizes I should like to say a word or two, but I will not keep you long as the exhaustive and interesting report read by the headmaster covers, I think, almost every point to be touched upon. During the last few months it has been my privilege to distribute the prizes at a considerable number of schools in this Colony and it has been an invaluable and most interesting task to me, inasmuch as it has enabled me to get in touch with the system of education in the Colony and with the special functions of the different schools. To-day I find myself present in this school for British boys and girls, the only British one in Hongkong, always remembering, of course, the corresponding one at Kowloon, and though it comes last on my list I think you will agree with me it is one of the most important in the Colony, the school which is devoted to the education of the children of our own race and blood. I do not undervalue schools for infants but it is manifestly much more important that adequate education should be afforded to boys of more advanced years and therefore I listened with great interest to what the headmaster just read about the school. I should like to see that school fully at its best regarding the urgent necessity for parents if they possibly can allowing their boys to remain a little longer at school. The advantage of a boy remaining at school a little longer is one which will remain with him all through his life because he will be able to go into the world better equipped and with a better chance of success in life and will look back in after life with more gratitude to his parents who provided him with this better equipment. In this connection I would say one other word to you who are here and to those who may read my remarks that is I hope you will take advantage of the Technical Institute which used to be called the Evening Continuation Classes and that you will see that your sons attend these classes during the months that this school is closed as well as after leaving school. They would there be able to pick up special knowledge in whatever branch of education would be most suitable to them in their future careers. I take great interest in the Technical Institute and I hope to see special progress in that department of education in the Colony. To-day is practically the third of this school. It opened on March 20th, 1903. During the first year the pupils numbered 51. They have now reached 71, with an average attendance during the months that the school is open of 42. I should like to see that attendance increase but still I think that figure is fairly good. Certainly I think we may say that this school is most favourably situated and that its surroundings are as charming as any school in the Colony. We hope shortly to remove the handsome nursery in front and throw that into the playground which will give more room for sports and games. I am delighted that the boys are keen on sport and ready to challenge any other school at any sport. The headmaster has told us of the good progress that has been made in the work of the school. I remember those four boys who passed the Oxford Preliminary Examination on the occasion of the first time that any pupils have been sent from this school to that examination and I also congratulate the five boys who remain longer at school, and extend the Technical Institute. The headmaster also mentioned with regard to the point on which I have laid so much stress that there was an improvement in the number of boys remaining at school, the number increasing from 6 to 12. I hope we shall be able soon to select a good school for miniature rifle range which will afford valuable instruction and amusement in shooting with the Morris tube. I hope to see schools sending out boys capable of shooting well. I saw some of your cadets at Stonecutters recently where they were learning the semaphore and I am glad to see that the semaphore is being taught in the school. I think that it is likely to make the boys of this school in future able to take part in the defence of the Empire if called upon. (Applause.)  
A programme of songs and recitations was given by the pupils.

## SPORTING.

A. A. A.

The fourth monthly cross country run will take place on Sunday next, starting at 8.30 from the Golf Club, Happy Valley, and running up to the country club, Bonanza, and ending at the 600 yard range at Tai Hang down to Tai Hang Village and then to the finish at the Royal Yacht Club. Competitors will choose their own course between the points mentioned.

## Football.

3RD ROUND HONGKONG SHIELD.

COMPETITION.

Next Saturday the Hongkong Football Club will play their 3rd round in the above competition against the B. C. Middlesex Rugby. The teams selected to represent the Club is as follows:—Goal, F. H. Kew; Backs, E. F. A. Webb, and E. Humphreys; Halves, L. J. Whitart, J. Hall, and A. Gregory; Forwards, W. H. Williams, M. G. Weston, O. Eager, B. R. Turner, and J. Mead. Referee, Lieut. Mullins, R.N.

## A DISPUTED CONTRACT.

## Are Bottles Made to Stand?

An interesting argument was heard in the Supreme Court this morning before His Honour Mr. A. G. Wio (Puisne Judge), with regard to labels on bottles. The case was one in which the Union Trading Company sued the On Lok Company for a balance alleged to be due under a contract in regard to the purchase of goods on commission.

Mr R. T. C. Master appeared for the plaintiffs and Mr Grist for the defendants. Mr Grist said the defendants denied indebtedness in regard to the bottles supplied—because the name was wrongly printed on the bottles. It was alleged that the defendants had used such bottles they would incur the ridicule of the Colony.

Mr Master pointed out that the defendants would not suffer through the name being so printed, as the bottles were usually hung up and the names were not read.

His Lordship: The bottle has a flat bottom so it must be intended to stand occasionally.

Mr Master said the specimen of the name supplied by the defendants had been sent home. Since the bottles had arrived defendants had paid certain moneys on account of the contract.

Mr Grist said the moneys were paid in respect to other goods supplied. Not one cent had been paid for the bottles. The question was whether his Lordship thought they should be delivered and the bottles that they should be made to stand and not to hang.

His Lordship: Then you had better all withdraw to them. I hold, at present, that the bottles are marked wrongly and that they are meant to stand and not to hang.

After evidence judgment was given for defendants with costs.

## THE MISSION TO SEAMEN.

On Friday next an effort is to be made to put a very important part of the Mission to Seamen work upon a more satisfactory footing. The Institute at Wanchai, whilst it has done very good work, has been greatly handicapped by its situation and the unsuitability of the premises in which it has been carried on. Added to these was the very serious fact that in carrying on what cannot, from its very nature, be a profit-making enterprise, the Committee was seriously hampered by a very heavy rent. For a long time past efforts have been made to secure a suitable site, but until recently nothing at all suitable in position and price could be heard of, and though a certain amount of success was met with in raising funds, the appeal was hampered by the fact that the committee for lack of a site could not put forth a definite scheme. But suitable sites have now in the market, and it is felt that every effort should be made to secure one and so give the Institute, which through financial straits and pressure of debts, has during the sixteen or more years of its existence led a wandering life, a permanent home and in every way worthy of one of the greatest seaports in the world. To bring matters to a focus and to initiate a movement for the provision of such an Institute, His Excellency Sir Frederick Lugard has kindly consented to preside at a meeting which has been called for Friday next at 5.15. Admiral Sir A. W. Moore, the Lord Bishop of the Diocese and other gentlemen will address the meeting and it is hoped that the movement will get a good set forward through the meeting.

## ON PLEASURE BENT.

## Cruise of the Mincola.

The steel four-masted steamer Mincola, of 3129 tons net register, which is now on an extended cruise, under the command of Captain H. Scott, arrived in Hongkong Harbour on Tuesday last and left again for the North on Friday. The vessel is engaged on a world wide tour, having been chartered by Colonel R. Thompson, who is accompanied by Mr and Mrs Johnson, Miss Beresford, Miss Thompson, Miss Valles and Mr Kruger. The tour commenced at New York on November 19, a course being set direct for Gibraltar, which was reached on December 4. The voyage across was without incident, and after a four days' stay at Gibraltar, during which time stores and two steam launches were taken on board, the Mincola departed for Marseilles, being there joined by Colonel Thompson. At Malta, which was reached on December 16, Rear-Admiral Princes Louis of Battenberg met the vessel and Colonel Thompson was entertained at luncheon on the battleship Prince of Wales.

In the evening a dinner party was given on the Mincola, the guests including the Prince and Princess of Battenberg, and Princess Louise. Bad weather was met with in the Mediterranean after leaving Malta and it was not until in sight of Port Said that the weather moderated. The remaining members of the party joined the vessel here and the weather was experienced to Aden, Christmas Day being spent at this port. Jan. 7 saw the Mincola at Colombo, after a delightful trip across the Indian Ocean, and Brigadier General Lawrence, commanding the troops in Ceylon, visited the party. A trip to Kandy and various places of interest up country kept the party busy until the 11th, on which day they arrived back on the Mincola. A grand dinner party was given on board, the vessel being decorated from stem to stern with flags, flowers and coloured electric bulbs. General Lawrence, Sir Alan Penny, Capt. Biddy (A.D.C.) and many other ladies and gentlemen were present. Sir Thomas Lipton also visited the Mincola on the following day. The Mincola steamed away for Calcutta on the afternoon of January 12, landing General Lawrence at Trincomalee on the 14th, and reaching Calcutta five days later. A special train was placed at the disposal of Colonel Thompson and among other places were Agra, Jaipur, Udaipur, Benares, Delhi and Cawnpore, a return being made to the Mincola on February 2. Their Excellencies the Earl and Countess of Minto paid a visit to the Mincola on the 6th, remaining for tea, and Colonel Thompson and party were entertained at dinner by their Excellencies the same evening. Lord Kitchener also paid his respects to Colonel Thompson and on Saturday February 6, the vessel sailed for Rangoon. Other places visited were Moumein and Port Blair in the Andamans, and Singapore was reached on February 24. A bad weather was experienced on the way to Hongkong, but the Mincola arrived safely on March 3rd, leaving on the 6th for Manila. From this port the Mincola will sail for Shanghai, and thence to Yokohama, via Nagasaki and Inland Sea to Kobe. The future movements of the Mincola are uncertain.

The Mincola is luxuriously fitted up, having on board a refrigerating plant, electric machinery, steam laundry, and all modern improvements. She is indeed a floating palace. The North Atlantic Steamship Company are the owners of the Mincola, which has been used in the North Atlantic trade since she was built, and Captain H. Scott has been in command of her since 1905.

## DO NOT CROWD THE SEASON.

THE first warm days of spring bring with them a desire to get out and enjoy the exhilarating air and sunshine. Children that have been housed up all winter are brought out and you wonder where they all came from. The heavy winter clothing is thrown aside, a cold wave comes, and influenza is prevalent. Colds at this season are even more dangerous than in mid-winter, as there is much more danger of pneumonia. Take Chamberlain's Cough Remedy, however, and you will have nothing to fear. It always cures, and counteracts any tendency of a cold to result in pneumonia. For sale by all chemists and druggists.

## COMPANY REPORTS.

## Shanghai Gas Co., Ltd.

The following is the report for 1907 to be presented to-day at Shanghai: The Directors have pleasure in presenting the annual report and statement of accounts for 1907. The progress of the Company continues satisfactory. The profit on working account for the year amounts to Tls. 241,567.06, which sum has been transferred to Profit and Loss Account.

The net profit for the year is Tls. 248,951.31.

The balance at credit of Profit and Loss Account, after crediting the account with Tls. 7,950.19 carried forward after appropriation of the profits for 1906, and deducting the amount of interim dividend at the rate of 7% (Tls. 83,859) paid on 10th July last, amounts to Tls. 173,102.59 of which sum the Directors recommend appropriation as follows:—

To pay a final dividend for the year 1907 on 24,000 shares at 2% (making 15% for the year) Tls. 4,000 per share, Tls. 96,000.00 To write off for depreciation of Land and Buildings Tls. 2,573.40; To write off for depreciation of Manufacturing and Distributing Plant Tls. 67,323.54; To write off for depreciation of Furniture Tls. 598.85; total Tls. 70,495.85. To carry forward to New Account Tls. 6,603.65.

Consumption.—Private consumption has increased 38,888,200 cubic feet, or 9.49 per cent. The increase in gas used for Public Lighting has been 1,412,000 cubic feet or 14.05 per cent.

Gas Engines.—The number of Gas Engines in use is 102, while the increase in gas used for power was 8,908,700 cubic feet, or 21.51 per cent.

Coal.—There were Tons 4,023.19-0 more consumed than in 1906 and 47,407.00 cubic feet more gas was produced.

Residuals.—The coal used during the year being nearly altogether Japanese, which yields a coke selling at a lower price than Australian, the return for coke was less than last year, although a greater quantity was sold. There was no demand for pitch, but tar and sulphate of ammonia were well taken up.

Fittings.—The Fittings Department continues to yield a fair profit on the capital employed.

Capital.—40 New shares, the balance of last issue, have been sold by the Directors and rank for dividend of 1907, but not having been paid for until after the 31st December, the addition to Capital account does not appear in the Balance Sheet.

Directors.—Mr P. F. E. Rogers having resigned his seat on the Board on his leaving for England, the Directors invited Mr E. E. Clark to fill the vacancy. Mr Clark's appointment requires confirmation at the Ordinary General Meeting. In accordance with the Articles of Association Mr E. E. Rogers, retiring, but being eligible offers himself for re-election.

Audit.—Owing to the indisposition of Mr W. H. Anderson, the accounts have been audited by Mr H. W. G. Hayter. Mr W. H. Anderson offers himself for re-election.

## SIDELIGHTS ON CHINESE LIFE.

"Sidelights on Chinese Life." By Rev. J. Macgowan, London Missionary Society. With 12 Illustrations in Colour by Montague Smyth, and 34 other illustrations. (Kegan Paul.) The number of works on China which have appeared during recent years has been so great that we confess we took up another with anything but favourable anticipations. The Chinaman and his country have been written up from every point of view by men who have spent years in the Middle Kingdom, as well as by others who have thought a rapid run through the chief ports and a visit to Peking and the Great Wall fully qualified them to deal with an ethnological race and a country which can boast of a population of something like four hundred millions. Mr Macgowan's book is, however, far superior to the ordinary run of works of the kind. He has lived many years in China, he knows the Chinaman thoroughly, and he is able to give his readers an insight into phases of character which is quite unusual. His chapters treat of such subjects as family and child life, servants, the adaptability and tenacity of purpose of the Chinese, amusements, schools and schoolmasters, the mandarin, and so forth. Mr Macgowan takes on the whole a favourable view of the Chinaman, who is no doubt frequently a very excellent fellow. The idea that the Chinese will one day "flash their swords in a wild conquest of the West" he declares to be without foundation. The Chinese are essentially a peace-loving people, and the glory of war does not appeal to them. But trade and commerce and money-making do; and what the West has to fear is that they can live in comfort and even luxury on incomes that would mean starvation to American or Australian workers.

"The battle of the future with the yellow race will not," Mr Macgowan says, "be fought on any battlefield, but in the labour markets of the nations that they would invade." The Chinaman's love of home, however, never deserts him. Where he emigrates he never takes his wife or family with him. To do so would be opposed to the spirit and genius of the race. "Every merchant and scholar," remarks Mr Macgowan, "every coolie that lands with but the clothes he has on, his bag, every spare shirt, and every million of the yellow race in the United States, has one dream that never dies out of his brain, and that is the picture of his home, which either in life or in death, it is his unalterable purpose to visit." This latter fact, we imagine, would make a strong case against all every effort to minimise the effects, which wholesale emigration into other countries might be expected to bring about. Much information not generally available may be gleaned from Mr Macgowan's book, and the terse style in which it is written makes it pleasant reading.

The coloured illustrations strike us as exceedingly good, and the others are well reproduced.

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## AMERICAN NEWS.

[VIA MANILA.]

WASHINGTON, March 6. Secretary of State Root has expressed himself as well satisfied with Japan's latest note on the subject of the emigration of Japanese. The matter has been taken up by Ambassador Takaishi and the latest word of his government on the subject has been presented by him since his arrival in Washington.

WASHINGTON, March 6. The sub-committee on naval personnel of the House committee on naval affairs, has reported favourably the bill prepared by Chairman Foss for the increase of the pay of the navy.

MADRID, March 6. Considerable apprehension is felt for the Royal Family on their proposed visit to Barcelona, because of the threats of anarchists in various parts of the kingdom. It is feared that an attempt may be made upon the King's life and a special guard is prepared to accompany him.

WASHINGTON, March 6. Eminent American politicians, amongst whom is Vice President Fairbanks, have agreed to support any Republican candidate for the Presidency provided it be not Taft.

WASHINGTON, March 6. A deadlock is on between the United States and Venezuela. There are a number of outstanding questions between the two governments which the United States desires to have submitted to arbitration. This Venezuela refuses to do.

## WEATHER REPORT.

The following notice is issued by Mr. Figg of the Hongkong Observatory:—

On the 11th at 11.50 a.m.—The barometer has fallen quickly in E. Japan owing to the depression, which is moving Eastwards off the S.E. coast.

Pressure has increased elsewhere, particularly over the N.E. coast of China. The high pressure area remains over China to the North of the Yangtze.

Very strong monsoon may be expected in the Formosa Channel and the China Sea.

Hongkong Rainfall for the 24 hours ending at 10 a.m. to-day, 0.60 inches. Forecast for the 24 hours ending at noon to-morrow.

FORECAST DISTRICT.

1.—Hongkong and Neighbourhood: N.E. winds, fresh; fair.

2.—Formosa Channel: N.E. winds, strong.

3.—Southeast of China between Hongkong and Amoy: Same as No. 1.

4.—South coast of China between Hongkong and Hainan: Same as No. 2.

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Hongkong, November 20, 1907.

BIRTH.  
LAUREN.—On the 9th March, 1908, at  
Bromen, the wife of J. Th. LAUREN, of a  
Son.

MEMOS FOR TO-MORROW.

Auction.

2.30 p.m.—Auction of Valuable House-

hold Furniture, &amp;c., at No. 5, Queen's

Gardens, Peak Road.

Amusements.

9 p.m.—Performance at City Hall.

Miscellaneous.

Transfer Books of China-Borneo Co., Ltd.,

close from this date to 28th March,

inclusive.

General Memoranda.

FRIDAY, March 13:—

10.30 a.m.—Military Gun Practice.

2.30 p.m.—Auction of Postage Stamps,

at Mr. Geo. P. Lammer's Sales Rooms.

5.15 p.m.—Public Meeting in City Hall.

SATURDAY, March 14:—

Noon—Meeting of Geo. Fenwick &amp; Co.,

Ltd., at Hongkong Hotel.

12.30 p.m.—Meeting of Hongkong and

Kowloon Wharf &amp; Godown Co., Ltd.,

at City Hall.

8 p.m.—Devonian Dinner at Hongkong

Hotel.

MONDAY, March 16:—

Goods per Pandora undelivered after

this date subject to rent.

Goods per Manila undelivered after this

date subject to rent.

TUESDAY, March 17:—

Noon—Meeting of The China &amp; Manila

Steamship Co., Ltd., at Co.'s Office.

WEDNESDAY, March 18:—

Transfer Books of China &amp; Manila Steam-

ship Co., Ltd., close from this date to

2 at Marsh, Inclosure.

Goods per Pandora undelivered

after this date subject to rent.

THURSDAY, March 19:—

Noon—Meeting of The China-Borneo

Co., Ltd., at Co.'s Office.

Noon—Meeting of Luzon Sugar Refining

Co., Ltd., at Messrs Jardine, Matheson

Co.'s Office.

12.30 p.m.—Meeting of Luzon Sugar

Refining Co., Ltd., at Messrs Jardine,

Matheson &amp; Co.'s Office.

NOTICE.

Letters relating to business should be addressed

to The Manager.

Communications relating to news should be

addressed to The Editor.

Correspondents must forward their names

and addresses with any communications ad-

dressed to the Editor, for publication but

no evidence of good faith.

All letters for publication should be written

on one side of the paper only.

No unimportant signed communications that

have already appeared in other papers will be

inserted.

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on Pages 1, 2, 3, 6 and 7, should be sent to our

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a.m. New Advertisements should be sent to

our Office at 8, Queen's Road, Central before

2 p.m.

Advertisements and Subscriptions which are

not ordered for a fixed period will be continued

until countermanded.

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The China Mail.

HONGKONG, WEDNESDAY, MARCH 11, 1908.

CANTON AND THE SEIZED

STEAMER.

The question pending between Pek-

ing and Canton regarding the seizure

of the Japanese steamer Tatsu Maru II

has, like so many questions of the times,

an aspect that derives importance and

significance in all stages of the new

departure in her national life, will claim

a right of appeal from mandates deliv-

ered in Peking that affect adversely a

peaceful control which can only be

assured whilst local conditions are

intelligently apprehended. The points

now discussed in "Canton" with a view

to further appeal are the right of

search with its limitations, and the place

of the incident of the seizure in the bear-

ing on the danger to the country through

failure to guard its coast line at a time

of extraordinary peril. What the Can-

tonese patriot sees with sufficient

clearness is the danger from abroad.

The history of the past two decades has

shown him that rebellion on a wide

scale with its attendant horrors and

misery is possible through the machina-

tions of disaffected Chinese who have

left the country for their country's good.

That these men in many of the lands

where Chinese emigrants congregate

have amassed resources and concentra-

ted their strength for the express object

of fomenting rebellion he steadfastly

believes. It seems further plain to him

that they are only biding their time in

order to land in China on the largest

possible scale precisely the kind of car-

goes carried by the Japanese ship, the

release of which has been ordered from

Peking. The Cantonese patriot is in

this peculiar position. Of all Chinese

throughout the provinces, the Kwang-

tung men have most to lose by internal

disturbances that would bring about

dislocation of trade. Their prosperity

depends on the maintenance of settled

conditions. They are further from

Peking, their coast line is relatively to

other provinces extended, and this coast

line is most accessible to foreign

steampers. Moreover the Southern pro-

vinces are a network of navigable

rivers, and streams by means of which

the transport of men and munitions of

war could with the greatest facility

be carried out, and the distribution or

concentration of these be effected more

readily than elsewhere in the empire.

These are conditions which the central

authority is not slow to recognise when

urging on the Kwangtung officials and

gentry the need of adequate expenditure

in protecting the sea-board of the

province. It is not to be wondered at

that this consideration of place and time

together with the happenings of the

past few years should lead the Can-

tonese to take what stand seems possible

against the Board of Foreign Affairs in

the matter of the seized steamer. Their

doing so is another side light on the

progress of the nation in the path of

self government.

PUBLIC DUTY.

The expression public duty has been

very much to the fore within the last

few days. A correspondent, writing to

us on Saturday, suggested that public

duty was as apocryphal as Mrs. Awkins.

This gentleman asked us to believe that

what we called devotion to public duty

was merely the self-seeking of those

cursed with inordinate ambition. We

do not think that these views will be

supported by any considerable section

of the community. It is easy to throw

stones at men who instead of devoting

their spare time to sport try to improve

the conditions of life under which we

live. Personally we regret anything in

the shape of a sneer against civilian

publicists. What is wanted in Hong-

kong is more public spirited citizens.

In regard to the Bill to amend the

Public Health and Buildings Ordinance

we have been extremely outspoken and

point. A Commission upon which no

official was allowed a seat, for obvious

reasons, reported in favour of a certain

scheme. Two officials, to whom the

report was submitted, criticised it ad-

versely and made counter recommenda-

tions. What happens? Nearly twelve

months later a Bill is introduced to the

Legislative Council by which the scheme

proposed by the expert civilians is

ignored and the recommendations of the

two officials adopted. We have no

doubt that before making his speech

last week in regard to this Bill the

Governor devoted much time to its con-

sideration. It is unnecessary to remind

readers that Sir Frederick Lugard takes

an unusually keen interest in matters

affecting the well of the Colony and

that we are admittedly fortunate in

having so thoroughly conscientious a

gentleman to govern us. But these

facts render our task the harder. When

we presume to disagree with His Excel-

lency we feel that we are placing our-

selves in a position which may seem

ungracious. Still duty must be per-

formed at whatever cost. We are of

opinion that the interests of the public

warrant us in opposing the Amending

Ordinance to the utmost of our ability.

And this we will do, bearing in mind,

however, that those who differ from us

are entitled to their views and to their

expression. Our desire is to abstain

from personalities and to conduct this

discussion in as courteous a manner

as is compatible with strongly held

opinion.

An interesting, if rather gruesome,

compilation might be made of the

documents left by those unfortunates

who came to the conclusion that it were

better to chance the evils that they knew

not of than remain to be the sport of

circumstance in this world. Some of

the reasons assigned by suicides seem

very inadequate to the normal and

healthy minded man. We note that

one poor fellow recently left for the

Coroner a note in which he said: "No

money, no whisky, no tobacco, any life

recently not worth living." It is

distasteful to endeavour to analyse the

recorded belief of one who has left

all his worries behind him but still it is

excusable to see and ponder upon what

degree of value a man standing on

the verge of another world places on the

things of this life. Money first, whisky

next, then tobacco. Materialism in its